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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Kozo TAKATSU, et al.

SERIAL NO.: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION

FILED: HEREWITH

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/JP03/16596 INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: December 24, 2003

FOR: METHOD FOR REMOVING SULFUR COMPOUND IN HYDROCARBON-CONTAINING

**GAS** 

## REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF DOCUMENTS CITED IN INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application for patent, notice is hereby given that applicant(s) request that the Examiner consider the documents cited in the International Search Report according to MPEP §609 and so indicate by a statement in the first Office Action that the information has been considered. When the Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicates both the search report and copies of the documents are present in the national stage file, there is no requirement for the applicant(s) to submit them (1156 O.G. 91 November 23, 1993).

Respectfully submitted,

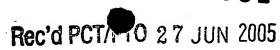
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Registration No. 34,423



## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/JP03/16596

	SIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER C1 <sup>7</sup> C10L3/00, C01B3/38, H01M8, B01J23/00	/06, B01D53/04, B01J20/	18,		
According t	to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both na	ational classification and IPC			
	S SEARCHED				
Minimum d Int.	ocumentation searched (classification system followed C1 C10L3/00, C01B3/38, H01M8, B01J23/00		18,		
Jits Koka:	Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1922–1996 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994–2002 Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971–2002 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996–2004				
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  WPI/L (QUESTEL)					
C. DOCU	MENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
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х	JP 2001-278602 A (Idemitsu K 10 October, 2001 (10.10.01), Claims (Family: none)	Rosan Co., Ltd.),	1-15		
× Furth	er documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	See patent family annex.			
* Special categories of cited documents: document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance  "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date  "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)  "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means  "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed  Date of the actual completion of the international search		"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art document member of the same patent family  Date of mailing of the international search report			
05 A	pril, 2004 (05.04.04)	20 April, 2004 (20.	04.04)		
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Japanese Patent Office		Authorized officer			
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.			

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/JP03/16596

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Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
х	JP 2001-279257 A (Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd.), 10 October, 2001 (10.10.01), Claims (Family: none)	1-15
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х	WO 2002/038268 A1 (Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd.), 16 May, 2002 (16.05.02), Claims & EP 1338335 A1 & JP 2002-540842 A & US 2004-0014600 A1	1-15
<b>x</b>	JP 2002-363574 A (Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd.), 18 December, 2002 (18.12.02), Claims (Family: none)	1-15
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